

1

2

3

4

5

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

6

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

7

8

9 GARY LEE FLEMING, No. C 09-01916 CW (PR)

10 Plaintiff,

ORDER OF DISMISSAL WITHOUT
PREJUDICE

11 v.

12 WARDEN HEDGE PATH, et al.,

13 Defendants.

14 Plaintiff is a prisoner of the State of California who is
15 incarcerated at Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP). He has filed
16 this civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and seeks leave to
17 proceed in forma pauperis (IFP). Venue is proper in this Court
18 because the injuries complained of occurred in Monterey County,
19 which is located within the Northern District of California. See
20 28 U.S.C. § 1391.

21 Plaintiff has filed other civil rights actions in this Court,
22 including Fleming v. Schwarzenegger, No. C 08-5011 CW (PR).

23

STANDARD OF REVIEW

24

25 A federal court must conduct a preliminary screening in any
26 case in which a prisoner seeks redress from a governmental entity
27 or officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C.
28 § 1915A(a). In its review, the court must identify any cognizable
claims and dismiss any claims that are frivolous, malicious, fail

1 to state a claim upon which relief may be granted or seek monetary
2 relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. Id.
3 § 1915A(b)(1), (2).

4 To state a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a plaintiff must
5 allege two essential elements: (1) that a right secured by the
6 Constitution or laws of the United States was violated, and
7 (2) that the alleged violation was committed by a person acting
8 under the color of State law. West v. Atkins, 487 U.S. 42, 48
9 (1988). "[A] complaint should not be dismissed for failure to
10 state a claim unless it appears beyond doubt that the plaintiff can
11 prove no set of facts in support of his claim which would entitle
12 him to relief." Terracom v. Valley National Bank, 49 F.3d 555,
13 558 (9th Cir. 1995) (quoting Conley v. Gibson, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46
14 (1957)). Pro se pleadings must be liberally construed. Balistreri
15 v. Pacifica Police Dep't, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988).

16 DISCUSSION

17 Plaintiff is designated as a full-time wheelchair user at
18 SVSP. He alleges that SVSP has no programs for full-time
19 wheelchair users. He has requested to be transferred to a prison
20 with such programs, but prison officials have denied his requests.
21 Plaintiff appears to allege that his right to due process was
22 violated when prison officials refused to grant his request to be
23 transferred to another prison.

24 Prisoners have no constitutional right to incarceration in a
25 particular institution. See Meachum v. Fano, 427 U.S. 215, 224
26 (1976). A prisoner's liberty interests are sufficiently
27 extinguished by his conviction that the State may generally confine
28 or transfer him to any of its institutions, to prisons in another

1 state or to federal prisons, without offending the Constitution.
2 See Rizzo v. Dawson, 778 F.2d 527, 530 (9th Cir. 1985) (citing
3 Meachum, 427 U.S. at 225) (intrastate prison transfer does not
4 implicate Due Process Clause), and Olim v. Wakinekona, 461 U.S.
5 238, 244-48 (1983) (interstate prison transfer does not implicate
6 Due Process Clause)). California has not created a protected
7 liberty interest in housing at any particular facility (or
8 temporary release to the community); therefore, there are no
9 substantive limitations on prison officials' discretion to grant or
10 refuse the transfer of prisoners. See Cal. Penal Code § 5080; Cal.
11 Code Regs. tit. 15, § 3379. The Court finds that there was no due
12 process violation in the prison officials' refusal to transfer
13 Plaintiff.

14 As mentioned above, Plaintiff also alleges that SVSP has no
15 programs for full-time wheelchair users. Title II of the Americans
16 with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq. (ADA),
17 provides that "no qualified individual with a disability shall, by
18 reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be
19 denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a
20 public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such
21 entity." 42 U.S.C. § 12132. Accordingly, Plaintiff has a right
22 under the ADA not to be discriminated against in the availability
23 of state programs due to disability status. In his previous civil
24 rights action, Case No. C 08-5011 CW (PR), the Court granted
25 Plaintiff leave to file an amendment to the complaint to add an ADA
26 claim against Defendant Schwarzenegger. Accordingly, the Court
27 will allow the claim in the present complaint to be included in the
28 amendment to the complaint in Case No. C 08-5011 CW (PR).

1 Therefore, this case will be closed as opened in error, and this
2 action is DISMISSED without prejudice to including an ADA claim
3 regarding the availability of state programs due to disability
4 status in his amendment to the complaint in Case No. C 08-5011 CW
5 (PR).

6 CONCLUSION

7 For the foregoing reasons, the Court orders as follows:

8 1. The present complaint was opened in error, and this
9 action is DISMISSED without prejudice.

10 2. The Court will allow the claim in the present complaint
11 to be included in the amendment to the complaint in Case No. C 08-
12 5011 CW (PR).

13 3. Plaintiff's IFP application is terminated as moot, and no
14 filing fee is due.

15 4. The Clerk shall terminate all pending motions and close
16 the file.

17 5. This Order terminates Docket no. 3.

18 IT IS SO ORDERED.

19 Dated: 7/15/09



20 CLAUDIA WILKEN
21 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GARY LEE FLEMING,

Plaintiff,

V.

HEDGEPEATH et al,

Defendant.

Case Number: CV09-01916 CW

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

10 I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am an employee in the Office of the Clerk, U.S. District Court, Northern District of California.

11 That on July 15, 2009, I SERVED a true and correct copy(ies) of the attached, by placing said
12 copy(ies) in a postage paid envelope addressed to the person(s) hereinafter listed, by depositing said
envelope in the U.S. Mail, or by placing said copy(ies) into an inter-office delivery receptacle located
in the Clerk's office.

15 Gary Lee Fleming
T-29495
16 Salinas Valley State Prison
POB 1050
17 Soledad, CA 93960-1030

18 || Dated: July 15, 2009

Richard W. Wieking, Clerk
By: Sheilah Cahill, Deputy Clerk